

IN THE CLAIMS

The current claims follow. For claims not marked as amended in this response, any difference in the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1. (Currently Amended) A wireless network for providing a packet data call connection between a source mobile station (MS) and a destination mobile station (MS) in a coverage area of said wireless network, said wireless network comprising:

a first base station capable of wirelessly communicating with said source mobile station;
a second base station capable of wirelessly communicating with said destination mobile station; and

a mobile switching center capable of connecting said first and second base stations, wherein said first base station is capable of receiving a first message from said source mobile station requesting an MS-MS packet data call connection to said destination mobile station and, in response to said first message, said first base station initiates establishment of said MS-MS packet data call connection on a local Internet Protocol (IP) network coupling said first and second base stations by transmitting an IP address of said first base station.

2. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said first message comprises an Origination message having a service option field indicating that said MS-MS packet data call connection is requested.

3. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said first base station responds to said first message by transmitting a second message to said mobile switching center, said second message indicating that said MS-MS packet data call connection to said destination mobile station is requested.

4. (Currently Amended) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said second message comprises a CM Service Request message containing said service option indicating that said MS-MS packet data call connection is requested and containing a phone number associated with said destination mobile station and [[an]] said IP address of said first base station.

5. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said mobile switching center responds to said second message by transmitting a third message to said second base station, said third message indicating that said MS-MS packet data call connection is requested.

6. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 5, wherein said third message is a Paging Request message.

7. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 5, wherein said second base station responds to said third message by transmitting a fourth message to said mobile switching

center, said fourth message containing an IP address of said second base station on said local IP network.

8. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said fourth message comprises a Paging Response message.

9. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said mobile switching center responds to said fourth message by transmitting a fifth message to said first base station, said fifth message containing said IP address of said second base station and a mobile identifier value associated with said destination mobile station.

10. (Currently Amended) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said fifth message comprises an Assignment Request message containing said IP address of said second base station and said mobile identifier value.

11. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said first base station responds to said fifth message by using said IP address of said second base station to establish a packet data bearer connection to said second base station via said local IP network.

12. (Original) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 11, wherein said first base station transmits said mobile identifier of said destination mobile station to said second base station in order to identify data packets from said source mobile station that are directed to said destination mobile station.

13. (Currently Amended) For use in a wireless network comprising: i) a first base station that wirelessly communicates with a source mobile station (MS), ii) a second base station that wirelessly communicates with a destination mobile station (MS), and iii) a mobile switching center that connects the first and second base stations, a method of providing a MS-MS packet data call connection between the source mobile station and the destination mobile station comprising the steps of:

in the first base station, receiving a first message from the source mobile station requesting a MS-MS packet data call connection to the destination mobile station;

in response to the first message, establishing the MS-MS packet data call connection on a local Internet Protocol (IP) network coupling the first and second base stations by transmitting an IP address of said first base station.

14. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 13, wherein the first message comprises an Origination message having a service option field indicating that the MS-MS packet data call connection is requested.

15. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 13, further comprising the step of transmitting a second message from the first base station to the mobile switching center, the second message indicating that the MS-MS packet data call connection to the destination mobile station is requested.

16. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the second message comprises a CM Service Request message containing the service option indicating that the MS-MS packet data call connection is requested and containing a phone number associated with the destination mobile station.

17. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 15, further comprising the step of transmitting a third message from the mobile switching center to the second base station in response to the second message, the third message indicating that the MS-MS packet data call connection is requested.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 17, wherein the third message is a Paging Request message.

19. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 17, further comprising the step of transmitting a fourth message from the second base station to the mobile switching center in response to the third message, the fourth message containing an IP address of the second base station on the local IP network.

20. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein the fourth message comprises a Paging Response message.

21. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 19, further comprising the step of transmitting a fifth message from the mobile switching center to the first base station in response to the fourth message, the fifth message containing the IP address of the second base station and a mobile identifier value associated with the destination mobile station.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 21, wherein the fifth message comprises an Assignment Request message containing the IP address of the second base station and the mobile identifier value.

23. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 21, further comprising the step, in response to the fifth message, of using the IP address of the second base station to establish a packet data bearer connection from the first base station to the second base station via the local IP network.